

REMARKS

This amendment is in response to the office action dated December 19, 2003. In this office action the examiner found Claim 2 to be allowable and rejected Claims 1 and 3 as unpatentable over Carll (US 2,313,801) in view of Berlin (US 3,048,069) under 35 USC 103. Applicant has amended Claims 1 and 3 as indicated on the enclosed pages and submits them for consideration in view of these accompanying remarks.

The examiner comments that Carll lacks a cavity in the support member or the top board. The examiner comments that in other respects Carll discloses all of the structural limitations of the claims. Applicant submits that previous to this latest amendment to the claims they patentably differentiated over the art of record which includes Carll and Berlin. It will be noted that as previously submitted Claim 1 included the limitation that the lateral movement was caused by reception of the blister into the cavities in the support members. As amended Claim 1 further recites that the blister engages the cavity to effect the recited lateral movement. Claim 3 as amended recites essentially the same limitations.

Applicant has reviewed the Berlin reference and is unable to discern how the examiner finds the cavity which is used in the rejection. There appears to be no cavity in the two parts when they are brought together to accommodate a blister. As a result it is submitted there is no suggestion in the Berlin reference to combine it with Carll as suggested by the examiner.

In conclusion it is submitted that all of the claims patentably differentiate over the references of record and favorable consideration for their allowance is solicited.

Respectfully submitted

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Claim Listing

1. (Currently Amended) A compensating blister die cutter apparatus for cutting individual blisters from a sheet containing a plurality of blisters including a base member, at least first and second blister die cutter units supported by said base member, each said blister die cutter unit comprising

a support member containing a cavity to receive a blister on the sheet and also carrying a steel rule die,

a lost motion connection connecting said support member to said base member permitting relative lateral movement of each die cutter unit relative to said base member and relative to each other through a range of 360 degrees upon reception of the blister into and engagement with the cavities cavity in the support members.

2. (Original) A compensating blister die cutter apparatus including a base member, at least first and second blister die cutter units supported by said base member, each said blister die cutter unit comprising a bottom board, a backup plate positioned on said bottom board, a top board positioned on said backup plate, a rule slot in said top board, a steel rule in said rule slot and having a cutting edge, a cavity formed in the central portion of said bottom board, backup plate and top board as assembled, threaded members connecting the bottom board, backup plate and top board together to move as a unit, vertical holes extending through the connected bottom board, backup plate and the top board and having a diameter of a given dimension, adjustment members extending through said vertical holes and being threaded into said base member, said adjustment members having a smaller diameter than said given dimension thus permitting lateral movement of said connected bottom board, backup plate and top board relative to said base member through a range of 360 degrees.

3. (Currently Amended) A compensating blister die cutter apparatus for cutting blisters from a sheet including a base member, at least first and second blister die cutter units supported by said base member, each said blister die cutter unit comprising a top

board, a rule slot in said top board, a steel rule in said rule slot and having a cutting edge, a cavity formed in the central portion of said top board, vertical holes extending through said top board and having a diameter of a given dimension, adjustment member extending through said vertical holes and being connected to said base member, and said adjustment members having a smaller diameter than said given dimension permitting movement of said blister die cutter unit relative to said base member through a range of 360 degrees upon reception of the blisters into and engagement with the cavities.